Civil Military Liaison conference, 2002 was held at Hyderabad on 17th October, 2002 under the aegis of Head Quarters Andhra Sub Area wherein it was suggested that interaction between the Army and civil authorities be conducted more often.

Increase of annual service charges for Secunderabad Cantonment Board

1529. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) wether Government as increased sufficiently the annual service charges for Secunderabad cantonment Board to meet the heavy demand of three lakhs of civilian population;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Service Charges and claimed by Cantonment Boards on the value of defence land as per latest Standard Table of Rents and value of buildings thereon and not on the financial requirement or demand of civilian population. Hence, the question of increase in the annual service charges does not arise.

Introduction of force-multipliers in IAF

1530. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the IAF is introducing force-multipliers to increase its firepower and effectiveness; and

(b) if so, the details of the system and the cost of this modernization programme?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Modernisation of Indian Air Force is a continuous process. To enhance the operational effectiveness, force-multipliers like Unmanned Aerial Vehiles and Flight Refuelling Aircraft etc. are being inducted within the budgetary allocations. It would not be in the national interest to disclose any further details.